

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A seed tape (1) including successively arranged germinating units (2a, 2b, 2c) made of plane material and being coherent or secured to a carrier strip (3) of at least one layer of biodegradable material, and where each germinating unit (2a, 2b, 2c) intended to be vertically bedded out in the earth (12) or in a growth substrate and in addition to one or more seeds (6) includes a mixture of a carrier (7), at least one additive (9) and optionally a filler and adjuvants (8), and where the additive or the additives (9) include water-absorbing materials, such as superabsorbing polymers, characterised in that each germinating unit (2a, 2b, 2c) is provided with at least one narrow zone (5) of water-repellent material across said unit, adjacent or at least up to the upper edge of said unit, where the water-repellent material penetrates the plane material of the germinating unit throughout the entire thickness thereof.

Claim 2 (original): A seed tape as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that the water-repellent material of the narrow zone (5) is silicone or silicone oil.

Claim 3 (currently amended): A seed tape as claimed in ~~claim 1 or 2~~ claim 1, characterised in that the narrow zone (5, 5') of water-repellent material is of a height (h) of at least 1 mm.

Claim 4 (currently amended): A seed tape as claimed in ~~claim 1, 2 or 3~~ claim 1, characterised in that the narrow zone (5, 5') of water-repellent material is of a height of 3.5 to 10 mm, ~~preferably 4 to 8 mm, especially 5 mm.~~

Claim 5 (currently amended): A seed tape as claimed in ~~one or more of the~~ claims 1 to 4 claim 1, characterised in that the narrow zone of water-repellent material is of a height (h) of 5 to 10% of the height (H) of the germinating unit.

Claim 6 (currently amended): A seed tape as claimed in ~~one or more of the~~ claims 1 to 5 claim 1, characterised in that the plane material of the germinating units (2a, 2b, 2c etc.) is paper, ~~preferably~~ of a weight of 30 to 60 g/m², ~~especially 40 to 50 g/m²~~, and that the carrier strip (1) is made of paper as well.

Claim 7 (original): A seed tape as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that the water-repellent material of the narrow zone (5, 5') is wax, stearin, paraffin or caoutchouc applied onto the plane material of the germinating unit as a hot melt and subsequently cured.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A seed tape as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that the water-repellent material of the narrow zone (5, 5') is plastics, ~~such as polylacride (PLA), optionally polylactide (PLA) plus polysaccharides~~ a plastic.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A seed tape as claimed in ~~one or more of the~~ claims 1 to 8 claim 1, characterised in that a narrow zone (5') of water-repellent

material is provided at or adjacent the lower edge (14) of each germinating unit (2a, 2b, 2c).

Claim 10 (currently amended): A seed tape as claimed in ~~one or more of the claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1, characterised in that said tape is continuously manufactured as the germinating units (2a, 2b, 2c etc.) are manufactured by means of one or more paper ribbons (16,17) of a width twice the width of the completed seed tape, a zone (15) of water-repellent material of a double width being applied onto the centre of said paper ribbon, whereafter said paper ribbon or ribbons (16, 17) are slotted (o) through the centre of the water-repellent zone (15).

Claim 11 (currently amended): A seed tape as claimed in ~~one or more of the claims 1 to 10~~ claim 1, characterised in that a deterrent is added to the water-repellent material of the narrow zone (5, 5'), said deterrent preferably being a substance affecting the sense of smell or taste of animals or birds.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A seed tape as claimed in ~~one or more of the claims 1 to 11~~ claim 1, characterised in that at the upper edge (4) of the germinating unit, the narrow zone (5) of water-repellent material is extended slightly downwards (5a, 5b) along the vertical edges (18a, 18b) of said germinating unit (2a, 2b, 2c).

Claim 13 (new): A seed tape as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a filter and adjuvants (8).

Claim 14 (new): A seed tape as claimed in claim 4 wherein said height is 4 to 8.

Claim 15 (new): A seed tape is claimed in claim 6 wherein said height is 5 mm.

Claim 16 (new): A seed tape is claimed in claim 6 wherein said weight is 40 to 50 g/m².

Claim 17 (new): A seed tape as claimed in claim 8 wherein said plastic comprises a polylactide (PLA).

Claim 18 (new): A seed tape as claimed in claim 9 wherein said plastic comprises a polysaccharide.